

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-23. (Canceled).

24. (New) A terrain model element which includes a base of a foamed plastics material having adhered on an upper face thereof a shaped layer providing the modelling terrain shape, which is comprised substantially of latex.

25. (New) The terrain model element as in claim 24 wherein the base is sheet-like.

26. (New) The terrain model element as in claim 24, further characterised in that the foamed plastics material is a flexible foam.

27. (New) The terrain model element as in claim 24, further characterised in that the foamed plastics material adheres to the latex by reason of being directly molded onto the latex layer.

28. (New) The terrain model element as in claim 24, further characterised in that the shaped layer is molded so as to be within a range of thickness, at least substantially through the extent of the layer, of between 1 millimetre and 10 millimetres.

29. (New) The terrain model element as in claim 27, further characterised in that the foamed plastics material fills or substantially fills an otherwise open cavity shape of an

underneath surface of the shaped latex layer.

30. (New) The terrain model element as in claim 25, further characterised in that the shaped layer of latex is formed so that it includes parts that are adhering to an upper surface of the base material, and other parts which are hollow and which therefore have a lowermost surface which is above and separate from an uppermost surface of the base material.

31. (New) The terrain model element as in claim 24, further characterised in that the latex layer is formed and cured in a mold that will absorb moisture from the latex applied thereto.

32. (New) The terrain model element as in claim 31, further characterised in that the mold is formed from Plaster of Paris, as it is implicitly porous and can absorb a significant amount of water.

33. (New) The terrain model element as in claim 24, further characterised in that there is a coating on an upper surface of the shaped layer which is an acrylic based paint.

34. (New) The terrain model element as in claim 24, further characterised in that the base unit is made from a urethane based foamed.

35. (New) A combination of terrain model elements including at least two terrain model elements, which are located one alongside another to provide a continuous terrain appearance, and where each of the elements is as described in claim 24.

36. (New) The terrain model element as in claim 24, further characterised in that the upper latex layer has the plastics material molded and foamed directly on to the back or lower surface of the shaped layer.

37. (New) The terrain model element as in claim 36 further characterised in that the foamed plastics material when foamed and cured, remains flexible.

38. (New) The terrain model element as in claim 24, further characterised in that the shaped layer includes an undercut shape.

39. (New) The terrain model element as in claim 24, further characterised in that the element has a plan that is hexagonal in shape.

40. (New) A method of manufacture of a terrain model element which includes the steps of forming a mold for an upper shaped layer of the element, which is adapted to effect a moisture reducing effect, applying liquid latex to the mold and leaving this so that at least some of the latex closest to the mold surface is caused to dry and effect thereby a thin layer of solidified latex; pouring out from the mold any excess liquid latex, then adhering a backing to the shaped upper layer of latex which is of a foamed flexible plastics material.

41. (New) The method of manufacture of a terrain model element as in claim 40 further including the steps effecting the backing by directly inserting catalyzed and foaming flexible plastic monomer into a cavity of the shaped layer.

42. (New) The method of manufacture of a terrain model element as in the claim 24, further characterised in that the mold is coated with a dehydrating liquid before the liquid latex is applied.

43. (New) The method of manufacture of a terrain model element as in claim 42 further characterised in that the dehydrating liquid includes alcohol.

44. (New) The method of manufacture of a terrain model element as in claim 24, further characterised in that the liquid latex is applied and left in the mold until a solidified layer of between 1 mm and 10 mm in thickness is formed, after which the liquid remaining is drained off.

45. (New) A terrain model element produced using the method of claim 40.